DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 045 591 24 SP 004 485

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TITLE Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in Educational Research. Final Report.
INSTITUTION Johns Hopkins Univ., Baltimore, Md.
SPONS AGENCY National Center for Educational Research and Development (DHEW/CE), Washington, D.C.
BUREAU NO BR-8-0837
PUB DATE 1 Oct 70
GRANT CEG-0-8-980837-4662-010
NOTE 4p.

EDRS PRICE EDRS Price MF-$0.25 HC-$0.30
DESCRIPTORS *Educational Research, *Fellowships, *Post Doctoral Education, School Organization, *Sociocultural Patterns, *Sociology

ABSTRACT

This postdoctoral fellowship program involved the following three phases: 1) systematic instruction in the sociology of complex organizations with particular emphasis on the organizational analysis of schools and schooling; 2) systematic instruction in multivariate regression approaches to non-experimental research with particular emphasis on techniques designed to facilitate casual interences from non-experimental data; and 3) an extensive internship drawing upon the competencies of both educators and sociologists in designing a conceptual framework for considering the impact of the social and organizational context of schools upon their inputs, outputs, and input-output relationships. It included formal course work, much additional reading, and active participation in two seminars. The program will culminate in 1972 with the publication of a research monograph which will apply both sophisticated sociological theory and research methodology to an examination of school inputs, outputs, and structures in terms of the sociocultural environments in which they are located. (MBM)

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FINAL REPORT

Grant No. OEG 0-8-980837-4662 (010)

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH

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October 1, 1970

Approved
10-21-70

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SP004485

This training program was concerned exclusively with post-doctoral study between September 15, 1968 and September 14, 1969 by Dr. Robert E. Herriott, a sociologist from Florida State University. In his proposal to USOE Dr. Herriott outlined a three phase program of study involving: 1) systematic instruction in the sociology of complex organizations with particular emphasis on the organizational analysis of schools and schooling, 2) systematic instruction in multivariate regression approaches to non-experimental research with particular emphasis on techniques designed to facilitate causal inferences from nonexperimental data, and 3) an extensive internship drawing upon the competencies of both educators and sociologists in designing a conceptual framework for considering the impact of the social and organizational context of schools upon their inputs, outputs, and input-output relationships.

In order to carry out this program of study Dr. Herriott undertook formal course work within the Departments of Social Relations, Statistics, and Economics, as well as a vast amount of additional reading. In addition he participated actively in two weekly seminars sponsored by the Center for the Study of Social Organization of Schools, one of a general substantive nature coordinated by Professor Edward McDill and the other of a methodological nature coordinated by Professor Julian Stanley. He also met weekly with the staff of the Social Accounts Project

directed by Professors James Coleman and Peter Rossi.

During his fellowship year Dr. Herriott made great progress in terms of his three-fold objectives. He expanded greatly his competencies in the areas of complex organizations and research methodology, and he designed a program of research which he has been actively pursuing since his return to Florida State University. (This research will reach a culmination in 1972 with the publication by Prentice-Hall of a research monograph entitled The Ecology of Schooling: A Sociological Analysis. This work has applied both sophisticated sociological theory and research methodology to an examination of school inputs, outputs, and structures in terms of the sociocultural environments in which they are located.)

Upon returning to Florida State University Dr. Herriott assumed the position of Director of a newly established Center for the Study of Education, an interdisciplinary unit within the College of Arts and Sciences concerned with the application of social science theory and methods to the study of schools and schooling.

In addition to his research and writing Dr. Herriott has continued to be active professionally. During the 1969-70 academic year he served as Chairman of the Section on the Sociology of Education of the American Sociological Association. He also served as a consultant to the Demographic Surveys Division of the Bureau of the Census, and to the Bureau of Research of the Office of Education, the latter as a member of the site visit team

to the Center for Research and Development in Higher Education at Berkeley, and as a member of the Sociological Studies Panel of the Basic Studies Branch. During the summer of 1970 Dr. Herriott served as Director of the Summer Research Institute of the American College Testing Program. He was the first sociologist to hold such a position and in this capacity coordinated ACT's planning for the establishment of a permanent sociological research group.